

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 /046 W

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FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 949

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAHORE 1018

FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED OPENING REMARKS FOR THE
SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE UPON HIS DEPARTURE FROM LAHORE:

QUOTE: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS, I WOULD LIKE
TO START OFF WITH A FEW REMARKS IF I MAY.

WHEN I ARRIVED WE RELEASED A STATEMENT EXPRESSING OUR
DEEPEST SYMPATHY OVER THE FLOOD AND RAIN DAMAGE WHICH HAS
SO SEVERELY AFFECTED PAKISTAN. I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE
MY PROFOUND CONCERNS ABOUT THE WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION WHICH
HAS SO GRIEVOUSLY AFFECTED YOUR COUNTRY. IT HAS BEEN
HEARTENING TO SEE HOW YOUR GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE
WORKING DILIGENTLY TOGETHER TO PROVIDE AID AND RELIEF TO
THOSE AFFECTED BY THE FLOODS. I ALSO WANT TO ASSURE YOU
THAT THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO
HELP PAKISTAN AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

I MUST ALSO EXPRESS MY HEARTFUL THANKS TO THE PRIME MINISTER
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AND BEGUM BHUTTO, AND THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN

FOR THEIR TRADITIONAL WARM AND GENEROUS GREETINGS WHICH THEY HAVE EXTENDED TO NANCY, DAVID AND ME. THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO LAHORE, AND AS DURING MY FIRST STAY, I AM STRUCK BY THE BEAUTY AND GRANDEUR OF YOUR CITY, ITS MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL SITES, AND OVERWHELMED BY THE HOSPITALITY OF ITS PEOPLE.

YOU MAY RECALL THAT DURING A PRIOR VISIT TO PAKISTAN I HAD A DIPLOMATIC ILLNESS AND ALTHOUGH SUPPOSEDLY ENJOYING THE BEAUTIES OF NATHIAGALI FOUND MYSELF SOMEWHAT FURTHER NORTH OF THE MURREE HILLS. THIS TIME, I PROMISE YOU, I HAVE INTENTIONALLY STAYED IN VIEW OF THE PRESS, HAVE MADE NO MIDNIGHT FLIGHTS TO OTHER DESTINATIONS, AND HAVE NOT ALLOWED MYSELF TO BE DEPRIVED OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRULY ENJOY MY STAY HERE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COPIES OF THE JOINT STATEMENT HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO ALL OF YOU. LET ME ADD THAT I HAVE ONCE AGAIN FOUND MY TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO TO BE STIMULATING, INTERESTING AND GUIDED BY MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING. I LEAVE FEELING ASSURED OF THE BASIC TRUST, RESPECT AND COMITY OF INTERESTS WHICH TIES OUR TWO COUNTRIES TOGETHER.

I WOULD BE GLAD TO TAKE ANY QUESTIONS. END QUOTE.
GIBNEY

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